

NEW JERSEY CLEAN AIR COUNCIL

Clean Air Council Members

Michael Egenton, Chairman
James Blando, Ph.D., Vice Chairman
Ferdows Ali, Ph.D.
Jeffrey Applegate
Jorge H. Berkowitz, Ph.D.
Leonard Bielory, M.D.
Joseph Constance
Hugh DeFazio, Jr., Esq.
John Elston
Elease Evans
Gene Feyl
Toby Hanna, P.E.
Richard M. Lynch, Ph.D.

Draft Approved: June 14, 2006

Clean Air Council Members

John Maxwell
Joseph Spatola, Ph.D.
Kenneth Thoman
Junfeng (Jim) Zhang, Ph.D.
Irwin Zonis

Clean Air Council Liaison

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NJ CLEAN AIR COUNCIL MEETING RECORD

May 10, 2006, 9:30 a.m.
NJ State Chamber of Commerce
1st Floor Main Conference Room
216 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608

CALL TO ORDER: Michael Egenton opened the meeting.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: All of the Council members were present with the changes noted below. (See Attachment 1 – Attendance Sheet)

EXCUSED: Jorge Berkowitz, Hugh DeFazio, Elease Evans, Gene Feyl, Joseph Spatola, Kenneth Thoman, Jim Zhang

SPEAKERS: Nancy Wittenberg, Assistant Commissioner, Environmental Regulation; Bill O'Sullivan, Director, Division of Air Quality

PUBLIC: Kelly Moretta, Schering-Plough Corp., Tony Russo, Chemical Council of NJ; Dennis Poole, NJ Environmental Lobby; Joann Held

Meeting Record

Roll call was taken. Chairman called for motion to approve the March minutes. Irwin Zonis made the motion to approve the March minutes as submitted. Dr. Bielory seconded the motion. The March minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

Nancy Wittenberg

- Encouraged suggestions for management ideas
- DEP to revisit employee trip reduction

Administrative Report

Presented by Bill O'Sullivan, Director, Division of Air Quality:

- May 15–19, 2006 was designated as National Air Quality Awareness (NAQA) week by USEPA. Governor Corzine signed a proclamation to announce NAQA week in New Jersey. The CAC adopted a resolution on May 5, supporting the Governor's proclamation. Various events were scheduled throughout the week to advocate clean air. New Jersey Division of Air Quality also posted a website with daily tips on reducing air pollution.
- PM2.5—A study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association showed that there was a short-term increase in hospital admission rates among the elderly (>65) associated with exposure to PM2.5 for a variety of cardiovascular and respiratory diseases. Results of this study show that a 10ug/m3 reduction in daily PM2.5 would reduce the annual number of hospitalization of this group for heart failure by 3,156 for the 204 counties in the study. The benefits of reducing PM2.5 would be much higher for the whole USA.
- State Implementation (SIP) Emission Inventory and Conformity—On March 31, 2006, the Air Quality Management Element held a public hearing on New Jersey's 2002 Emission Inventory for the 8-Hour Carbon Monoxide National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS), the 1-Hour Ozone NAAQS, and the Annual Fine Particulate Matter NAAQS. The inventory has been finalized and submitted to EPA as a SIP revision.
- Air Permits—The Air Quality Permitting program received an additional ten operating permit renewals/modifications in March, making the in-house total 250. The number of these that are backlogged increased from 74 to 79, or 32%. The Preconstruction Permit backlog has decreased from 38 to 26. Maintaining a backlog of preconstruction permits less than 10% of the applications on hand is the goal of the Bureau of Preconstruction Permits. This goal was achieved for the first time in March 2006. A General Permit for Research and Development is nearly complete and will be operative in July.
- Air Fee Adoption—The adoption package to increase air permit fees, primarily for minor facilities, is done. In response to industry comments, changes were made to fees and the deadline for electronic submittal of general permits has been extended to 2010. Adoption is expected by July 1.
- EPA/New Source Review (NSR) Equipment Replacement Rule Proposal (ERP)—On March 17, 2006, the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals struck down EPA's ERP to relax NSR rules for air permitting promulgated in October 2003. New Jersey, along with 14 other states, several cities and counties and numerous environmental groups challenged the legality of the rule, which was subsequently stayed on December 24, 2003. Rejecting the agency's argument that the ERP would lower overall emissions by increasing efficiency, the Court stated that "EPA may not avoid congressional intent by asserting that its preferred approach would be better policy."
- New Jersey's Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR)—New Jersey's NOx Budget program caps NOx emissions during the ozone season. To fulfill New Jersey's emissions reduction requirements under the CAIR, the DEP is planning rulemaking for electric generating units for cap-and-trade programs for annual SO₂, annual NOx, and ozone season NOx. Initial rulemaking will likely focus on NOx allowance allocations calculated based on electric output. Auctioning NOx allowances will be considered in the future, along with the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative's auction.

- Regional Low Sulfur Distillate Fuel Initiative—The Northeast States are considering strategies to lower the sulfur content of distillate fuel, including home heating oil. A draft Memorandum of Understanding is being considered to lower the sulfur content from an average content of 2,500 PPM to 500 PPM in Phase I (same as old diesel standard) and then to 15 PPM in Phase II (same as new diesel standard).

NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS

- Schedule presentation on Regional Green House Gas Initiative (RGGI)/Chris Sherry this fall.
- Members were invited to attend the New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce Annual Open House on June 22, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- Chairman called for motion to adjourn the meeting. James Blando made the motion, seconded by Richard Lynch. The meeting was adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

- New Clips

NEXT MEETING

Oyster Creek Emergency Operations Facility, 1268 Rte. 37 West, Toms River, NJ
Contact: Rachelle Benson, (O) 609-971-2185, (C) 609-709-9269